Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1903

Leafield House

To the Chairman & Members of the Sealon Urban Council

Bloom
Dr Patterson

Gentlemen,

I am glad to be able to report that the health statistics for the past year are highly satisfactory.

The births number 21 - 11 boys & 10 girls - a birth-rate of 15.9

There were 16 deaths, but three were visitors. One, here for the day only, died from Syncope, another from phthisis & the third was drowned whilst bathing.

The total death-rate is 12. Excluding the three visitors it is 9 per thousand of the resident population. This is the lowest, with the exception of 1890, we have had for twenty years.

Six of the 13 deaths were over 65 years, two under 1 year, one boy of 8 years from an accident, & four between 49 & 61.

The cause of death calls for little comment, the two infants died from bronchitis & there is one death from cancer. The others from various ordinary causes - None from any of the zymotic diseases.

There were three notifications all of Facial Erysipelas.

The small number of deaths amongst infants and young children, & the absence of any from the Zymotics, is again most satisfactory.

The Sewerage system continues to work well, but the recent earth-slips have exposed the outfall from the Septic Tank. This should be remedied as soon as the

state of the ground will permit.
The scavenging has been efficiently performed.
Rain fell on 207 days. The total was 36.69 inches - ten more than last year.
We used during the year 14,901,000 gallons of water. That is 40,825 gallons a day, which gives 30 gallons a day per head of the population.
We have no factories in our district + only two Workshops where from 6 to 10 girls work under satisfactory condition.
We continue to hand work in the "Annual Summary of Reports of Medical Officers of Health for South Devon" ~~for the year~~ In that for 1902 it says of Sealon, after alluding to the fact that our death-rate for 1901 was higher than usual: "All the other figures are highly satisfactory, there being only one fatality under the age of 12 months, + the senile proportion of deaths, nearly 70 per cent, being the highest ever shown in Table II. There was only one Notification + no Zymotic loss whatever."
In conclusion I am able to report that the general health of the district has been good throughout the year
I appended are the usual Tables.

I am Gentlemen
Yours truly
H. A. Patterson
M.O.H

Sealon 28 January 1904.